exploration activity in on-shore Krishna-Godavari basin (Andhra Pradesh) by drilling about 36 wells with a metreage of about 133 thousand metres as against 7 wells with a metreage of 31.23 thousand metres drilled during the Sixth Plan.

Sick oil wells

888. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sick oil wells of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, sector-wise;

(b) what are the reasons for the sickness in oil wells; and

(c) whether any plan has been formulated by Government to payment and remove sickness in oil wells; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Following is the sector wise distribution of sick oil wells if ONGC as on 1.7.1986:—

Western Region	208
Eastern Region	55
Bombay Offshore Region	11
	274

(b) Oil wells become sick on account of Water Coning, lower permeability, low bottom hole pressure, formation damage etc.

(c) Following steps have been taken in order to repair the sick wells:—

(i) deployment of large number of workover rigs.

(ii) continuing workover operations on round the clock basis.

(iii) improving efficiency of workover operaitons through better technology.

Supply of cooking gas through pipeline

889. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will he Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration for introducing a system of supplying LPG and other cooking gases to the consumers through pipelines;

(b) if so, whether any foreign collaboration is being considered in this connection; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Orissa High Court

890. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending before the Orissa High Court as on date;

(b) the number of vacancies to be filled up in the Orissa High Court as on date;

(c) the date on which each vacancy occurred;

(d) the steps taken or are proposed to be taken to dispose of the pending case; and

(e) by when the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per information furnished by the Registrar of the Orissa High Court, the number of cases pending as on 30-6-1987 was 37854.